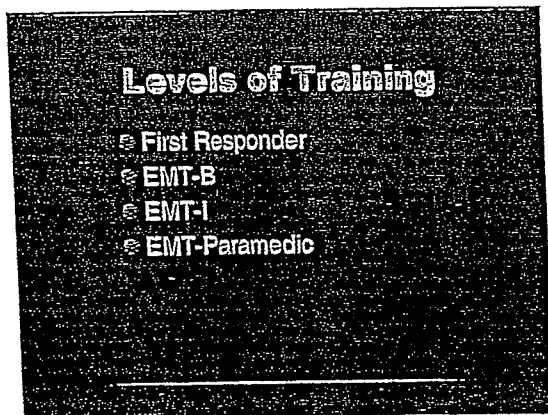
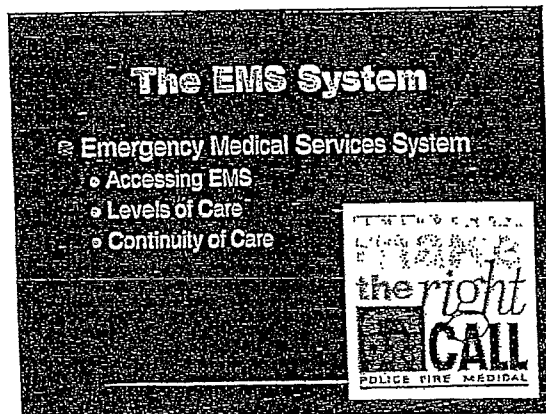


First Responder Review



Inservice training

2007-2008

Session #2

11/12/07 to 1/8/08



First Responder

- First at the scene
- Limited equipment use
- Emphasis is on
 - 1 activating EMS
 - 2 controlling the scene
 - 3 providing immediate care for life-threatening injuries (i.e. CPR, uncontrolled bleeding, etc.)
 - 4 preparing for arrival of ambulance
- CPR / AED

EMT-B



- Minimum certification requirements for ambulance personnel
- Medical & trauma emergency care
- Patient assessment
- Airway care and maintenance
- Complex stabilization of spinal and extremity injuries

EMT-I

- Some advanced life support
 - start IV's
 - advanced airways
 - administer some medications

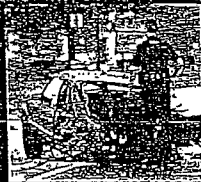
EMT-Paramedic

- Relatively invasive field care
 - ET tubes
 - IV's
 - Variety of medications
 - ECGs



Role of the First Responder

- CHECK
- CALL
- CARE




Check the Scene

- Scene safety
- Determine number of victims
- Assess victim(s)
- Assess victim(s) for life-threatening problems: conscious, breathing?
- Determine if/how bystanders can help


Call

- Activate EMS
- Call for additional resources
 - Radio
 - Telephone
- Dispatcher needs:
 - Gender
 - Age
 - Conscious, breathing
 - Nature of illness / injury
 - In custody or not



Care

- For life-threatening conditions



Responsibilities of the First Responder

• ?

Legal Issues



- Scope of care
- Medical control
- Duty to Act
- Good Samaritan Law

Medical Control

1. Medical director
2. Medical control, direct and indirect
3. First Responder as designated agent of medical director

Duty to Act

- Legal responsibility:
 - Breach of duty
 - Injury occurred
 - Direct link between this breach and the injury

Good Samaritan Laws

- Limited legal protection
- Encouragement to help others in emergency situations
- Use of common sense and reasonable skill
- Depends on level of training
- Assumes each person will do their best to save a life

Patient consent

- Competence
- Expressed
- Implied
- Children & mentally incompetent adults
- Advance Directives / DNR
- Provide appropriate care if consent is given

Patient Refusal

- Criminal act
- Still activate EMS system
- Emergency Detention

Medical Emergencies

- Stroke
- Seizure
- Diabetic emergency
- Poisoning and allergic reaction

STROKE

Signs and Symptoms of a Stroke:

- 1.) Sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body.
- 2.) Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding.
- 3.) Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes.
- 4.) Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination.
- 5.) Sudden severe headache with no known cause.

SEIZURE

Signs and Symptoms of a Seizure:

- 1.) The person experiencing a seizure may cry out or make some sound, stiffen for some seconds, then have rhythmic movements of the arms and legs.
- 2.) The person may not appear to be breathing.
- 3.) The person is often breathing deeply after an episode.
- 4.) Loss of urine is common.

Diabetic Emergency

Signs and Symptoms of a Diabetic Emergency:

- 1.) Hyperglycemia – This dangerous diabetes complication happens when blood sugar gets too high and the body becomes severely dehydrated.
- 2.) Hypoglycemia – Low blood sugar can cause shakiness, anxiety, and coma, if untreated.

Poisoning

Signs and Symptoms of Poisoning:

- 1.) Some poisons enlarge the pupils, while some poisons shrink them.
- 2.) Some poisons cause excessive drooling, while some poisons cause the mouth and skin to become dry.
- 3.) Some poisons speed up the heart, while other poisons slow the heart down.
- 4.) Some poisons cause hyperactivity, while other poisons cause drowsiness.

Allergic Reactions

Signs and Symptoms of Allergic Reactions:

- 1.) Rash, itchy or watery eyes, congestion.
- 2.) Difficulty breathing.
- 3.) Abdominal pain, cramps, vomiting.
- 4.) Diarrhea, mental confusion or dizziness.
- 5.) Varying degrees of swellings that can make breathing and swallowing difficult.

Cold - Related Emergencies

Signs and Symptoms of Hypothermia:

- 1.) Low body temperature is a life-threatening condition.
- 2.) Slurred speech, sluggishness, and confusion.
- 3.) Shallow, slow breathing and unusual behavior.
- 4.) Slow irregular heartbeat.

Cold - Related Emergencies

Signs and Symptoms of Frostbite:

- 1.) In superficial frostbite, you may experience burning, numbness, tingling, itching, or cold sensations in the affected.
- 2.) In deep frostbite, there is an initial decrease in sensation that is eventually completely lost. Swelling and blood-filled blisters are noted over white or yellow skin that looks waxy and turns purplish blue as it warms up.

Heat - Related Emergencies

Signs and Symptoms of Heat Stroke:

- 1.) Heat Stroke is a life threatening condition.
- 2.) High body temperature, the absence of sweating, with hot red or flushed dry skin.
- 3.) Rapid pulse, difficulty breathing, strange behavior or hallucinations.
- 4.) Confusion, agitation, disorientation, seizure or coma.

Heat - Related Emergencies

Signs and Symptoms of Heat Cramps:

- 1.) Heat cramps usually involve muscles that are fatigued by heavy work such as calves, thighs, and shoulders.
- 2.) Muscle spasms.
- 3.) Muscle pain.

Heat - Related Emergencies

Signs and Symptoms of Heat Exhaustion:

- 1.) Heavy sweating, paleness, tiredness or weakness.
- 2.) Dizziness or headache.
- 3.) Nausea or vomiting.
- 4.) Fainting.

Shock

Types of Shock:

- 1.) Hypovolemic Shock - significant loss of body fluids.
- 2.) Hemorrhagic Shock - significant loss of blood.
- 3.) Cardiogenic Shock - heart attack.
- 4.) Neurogenic Shock - significant brain or spinal injury.
- 5.) Hypoglycemic Shock or Hyperglycemic Shock - associate with diabetes.

Soft Tissue Injuries

Soft - Tissue Injuries closed or open:

- 1.) Laceration
- 2.) Avulsion
- 3.) Abrasion
- 4.) Contusion
- 5.) Puncture

First Responder Check list

- 1.) Body Substance Isolation (BSI), (i.e., gloves, mask, and the use of protective barriers)
- 2.) Activate EMS.
- 3.) Airway, Breathing and Circulation (ABC's)
- 4.) Care for life-threatening conditions.
- 5.) Keep victim comfortable.
- 6.) Look for medical ID bracelet
- 7.) Beware of possible spinal cord injuries.
- 8.) Maintain safety.
